

# Hill Miri dialect

**Nyishi (Kamle)** or *Sarak* is a Tani language of India. It is spoken in Arunachal Pradesh by an estimated 9,000 people of the Nyishi tribe.<sup>[2]</sup> It appears to be a dialect of the Nishi language.<sup>[3]</sup>

Contents
<b>Description</b>
<b>History of scholarship</b>
<b>Phonology</b>
Consonants
<b>Grammar</b>
Numerals
Pronouns
Personal
<b>References</b>
<b>Further reading</b>
<b>External links</b>

## Description

Nyishi(muri-mugli) is a member of the Tani branch of the Sino-Tibetan languages and is considered a dialect of the Nishi language. It is spoken by 9,000 people in the northern regions of India by the Nyishi people of Kamle.<sup>[4]</sup> It is threatened because the younger generation is slowly breaking away from their people's traditions and language.<sup>[5][6]</sup> Many audio books of gospel narratives in the Nyishi language of Kamle have been collected.

## History of scholarship

George Abraham Grierson, in his survey of India regarding its linguistics, researched the Nyishi language and published a record over a century ago.

## Phonology

### Consonants

The following table includes an inventory of Nyishi (Kamle) consonants.<sup>[7]</sup>

Nyishi (Kamle)	
Sarak	
Region	Arunachal Pradesh
Ethnicity	Nyishi (Kamle) people
Native speakers	(undated figure of 10,100) <sup>[1]</sup>
Language family	<div>Sino-Tibetan <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Tani<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>West Tani<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nyishi<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Nyishi (Kamle)</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	<i>None</i> (mis) <div>Individual code: mrg – (included under Plains Miri)</div>
Glottolog	<i>None</i>



Portrait of a girl of the Nyishi people of kamle

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>	<u>Post-alveolar</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<b><u>Nasal</u></b>		<u>m</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>ɲ</u> <sup>[8]</sup>	<u>ŋ</u>	
<b><u>Stop</u></b>	<b><u>voiceless</u></b>	<u>p</u>	<u>t</u>	<u>c</u> <sup>[9]</sup>	<u>k</u>	
	<b><u>voiced</u></b>	<u>b</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>ʃ</u> <sup>[10]</sup>	<u>g</u>	
<b><u>Fricative</u></b>			<u>s</u>	<u>ʃ</u>		<u>h</u>
<b><u>Approximant</u></b>		<u>w</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>j</u>		
<b><u>Trill?</u></b>			<u>r</u>			

Vowels are front /i, e/, central /ɨ, ʉ, ə, a/<sup>[11]</sup> and back /u, o/. Vowels occur long and short.

## Grammar

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The basic Nyishi (Kamle) grammar and basic word order are like those of related Sino-Tibetan languages, similar to that of Nishi.

### Numerals

	Nyishi (Kamle)
1	aken
2	eñi
3	oum
4	epi
5	ango/angngo
6	ake
7	kenne
8	pine
9	kora
10	íri

### Pronouns

#### Personal

	Singular	Plural
<b>1st person</b>	ngo	ngu-lu
<b>2nd person</b>	no	nu-lu
<b>3rd person</b>	bu, bú	bu-lu, bú-lu

## References

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1. Mising ([https://www.ethnologue.com/15/show\\_language/mrg](https://www.ethnologue.com/15/show_language/mrg)) at *Ethnologue* (15th ed., 2005)
2. Moseley, Christopher (2007). *Encyclopedia of the world's endangered languages* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=dQt6XWloU10C&pg=PA298>). Routledge. p. 298. ISBN 978-0-7007-1197-0. Retrieved 1 April 2012.
3. Post, Mark W. (2013). *Defoliating the Tani Stammbaum: An exercise in areal linguistics*. ([http://www.academia.edu/4167715/Defoliating\\_the\\_Tani\\_Stammbaum\\_An\\_exercise\\_in\\_areal\\_linguistics](http://www.academia.edu/4167715/Defoliating_the_Tani_Stammbaum_An_exercise_in_areal_linguistics)) Paper presented at the 13th Himalayan Languages Symposium. Canberra, Australian National University, Aug 9.
4. [1] (<http://www.endangeredlanguages.com/lang/10414>)
5. Audio (<http://www.livingtongues.org/hotspots/hotspot.GSA.Apatani..Nishi.ht>)
6. Nabam Tadar Rikam, "Emerging religious Identities of Arunachal Pradesh" ([https://books.google.com/books/about/Emerging\\_religious\\_identities\\_of\\_Arunach.html?id=jP1tAAAAMAAJ](https://books.google.com/books/about/Emerging_religious_identities_of_Arunach.html?id=jP1tAAAAMAAJ)), *Mittal Publications*, 2005
7. Ju Namkung, "Phonological inventories of Tibeto-burman languages" ([http://stedt.berkeley.edu/pubs\\_and\\_prods/STEDT\\_Monograph3\\_Phonological-Inv-TB.pdf](http://stedt.berkeley.edu/pubs_and_prods/STEDT_Monograph3_Phonological-Inv-TB.pdf)), Center for Southeast Asia Studies, University of California, 1996
8. Value unclear, perhaps [nʲ]?
9. Value unclear, perhaps [tʲ]?
10. Value unclear, perhaps [dʒ]?
11. Transcribed ⟨w, y, ɣ, a⟩ in Namkung

## Further reading

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- Ivan Martin Simon, "Hill Miri language guide" ([https://books.google.com/books/about/Hill\\_Miri\\_language\\_guide.html?id=d6S5AAAAIAAJ](https://books.google.com/books/about/Hill_Miri_language_guide.html?id=d6S5AAAAIAAJ)), *Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh*, 1976
- Matthew S. Dryer, "Word order in Tibeto-burman languages" *Linguistics of the Tibeto-Burman Area*, 2008 (<http://linguistics.buffalo.edu/people/faculty/dryer/dryer/DryerTibetoBurmanWordOrder.pdf>)
- Shri Aduk Tayeng, "Nishi Phrase book" (<http://www.rogerblench.info/Language/South%20Asia/NEI/Tani/Nishi/Linguistics/Nishi%20phrase%20book%20Tayeng%201990.pdf>), *Arunachal Pradesh*, 1990
- P. T. Abraham, "A Grammar of Nyishi Language" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151222115712/http://www.rogerblench.info/Language/South%20Asia/NEI/Tani/Nishi/Linguistics/Nyishi%20grammar%20Abraham%202005.pdf>), 2005
- S. N. Goswami, "Nishing (Bangni) Language Guide" (<https://archive.org/details/NishingBangniLanguageGuideFINAL>), 1995

## External links

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- Hill Miri profile at the Endangered Languages Project (<http://www.endangeredlanguages.com/lang/10414>)
- Gospel narratives in Hill Miri dialect (<http://globalrecordings.net/en/program/C62162>)

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